

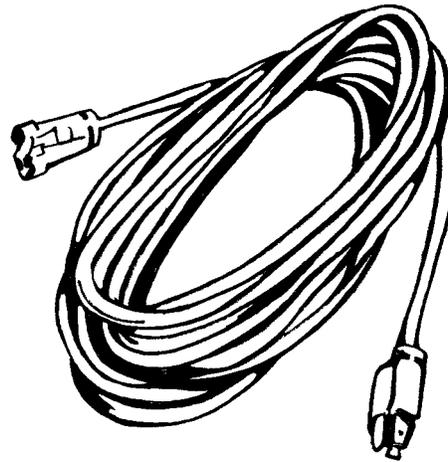
## Things to Do Before Training

- ▶ If possible, have examples of power cords that are damaged and should be replaced.
- ▶ Have a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) to show and explain its use.
- ▶ In the index of the *Cal/OSHA Pocket Guide for the Construction Industry*, look up **Electrical** and read the pages listed.

## Introduction

Electricity is what powers our tools, gives us light, and makes our jobs easier. At the same time, as you know, electricity is very dangerous.

Simple precautions and equipment will prevent electrical shocks and death by electrocutions.



## QUESTIONS TO ASK

- ▶ Have you or anyone you know been shocked while on the job? What caused it?
- ▶ What are the electrical hazards on this job?
- ▶ What can we do to prevent shocks and electrocution on this job?

# SAFETY BREAK

## ACTIONS TO TAKE

- ▶ Have each worker inspect his/her tools and cords for cuts, exposed wiring, or other damage. Replace all damaged cords immediately or cut damaged cords in two.
- ▶ Check all power cords on the site for damage. Replace damaged cords or cut damaged cords in two.

## Key Points to Keep in Mind

- Setting up, changing, repairing, and dismantling **the job-site wiring should only be done by a licensed electrician.**
- All temporary job-site electrical supply** (including extension cords) **must be GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter) protected.** A GFCI instantly shuts off power if it senses any loss of electricity from the circuit to ground.
- Check extension cords, plugs, and pins for visible damage before each use.** Destroy any damaged cords.
- Never cut off a ground pin and never use a cord with a missing ground pin.**
- Inspect electrical tools regularly.** Stop using an electrical tool immediately if it is wet, overheating, smoking, starting to smell, or if you feel a tingle or shock.
- Make sure that cords are not driven over** or placed where they can be damaged.
- To prevent electrocutions, **cords and connections should be kept away from water.**
- It is important that extension cords are not too thin or too long for the tool's power draw. This can destroy your tool, extension cord, or even cause an electrical fire. When in doubt, use the shortest cord available or use a heavier gauge cord.
- Check for electrical wiring before** drilling, cutting, or sawing into walls, ceilings, or floors.
- Cal/OSHA does not allow extension cords to be passed through holes in walls, floors, ceilings, or through windows or doors unless properly sleeved.